

# Northwoods Journal – August 2016

*A Free Publication about Enjoying and Protecting Marinette County's Outdoor Life*

## In This Issue:

Barred & Great Horned Owls	1
Prairie Walk at Harmony	1
Like us on Facebook!	2
2016 Garden Walk a Success	3
Marinette County Fair	3
Area Farmers & Flea Markets	3
Sand Lake Conservation Camp	4
EWM Control on Local Lakes	5
LWCD Hosts LMLWCA Tour	5
How to Get your Kids Outside & Reduce Risks	6
Art in the Garden	7
Area Events Calendar	8
Harmony Arboretum Calendar	8
Children's Garden Update	8

## Barred and Great Horned Owls – Nocturnal Icons

By Aleta DiRienzo, LWCD Database Specialist/Program Assistant



Last month we learned about the Saw-whet owl, the tiny hunter of the north. This month, we'll learn about two species of Wisconsin owl that many of us have heard but not necessarily seen – the Barred and the Great-horned owls.

To Eastern woodland people, the owl represented the female moon spirit. It was thought to have healing powers and a messenger between living and dead relatives. Owl feathers were hung from tobacco pipes as prayer offerings to the earth and moon. The Menominee tribe believed that day and night were created after a talking contest between a Saw-whet owl (Totoba) and a rabbit (Wabus). The rabbit won and selected daylight, but allowed night time as a benefit to the losing owl.



Barred owl above; below, a Great-horned owl



### The Barred Owl

The Barred owl's hooting call, "Who cooks for you? Who cooks for you-all?" is a classic sound of old forests and treed swamps. This is an attractive owl with soulful brown eyes and brown and white plumage. It can pass unnoticed as it flies noiselessly through the dense canopy or snoozes on a tree limb. It lives in Wisconsin year-round and prefers habitat of mixed forests of large trees, often near water. These mature forests usually support a higher diversity of prey and are more likely to have large cavities suitable for nesting.

Barred owls are early nesters – they begin to nest and lay eggs in March or April, and may prospect a nest site as early as a year before using it. They do little or nothing to change an existing tree cavity or abandoned platform nest. They may add lichen, fresh green conifer sprigs or feathers to a stick platform nest, and they may flatten or remove the top of an old squirrel nest. Usually a natural cavity is preferred, up to 40 feet high in a large tree (see photo next column). No one knows whether the male or the female chooses the site. It is thought that pairs mate for life, raising one brood each year.





Barred owls usually lay 1-5 eggs and are incubated for 28-33 days. Upon hatching, the white fuzzy chicks will call for food. Dad will bring back food to the nest and Mom will tear the food into soft bite size pieces. She stays to keep the chicks warm for most of the first two weeks until larger feathers grow in. In the third week, the young learn to tear apart their food. By the fourth or fifth week, the young owls still can't fly, but they leave the nest and perch on a branch as they wait for food. At ten weeks of age they begin to learn how to fly. The owlets stay with their parents until the fall when they venture off on their own to find their own territory.



The Barred owl is mostly active at night – their prime hunting times are dawn and dusk. They are territorial year-round and will chase away intruders while hooting loudly. They seek prey by watching from their perch, also by flying low through the forest. The owl has paths it frequently uses through its territory for hunting.

### Some Cool Facts

 The Great-horned owl is the most serious predatory threat to the Barred owl. Although the two species often live in the same areas, a Barred owl will move to another part of its territory when a Great-horned owl is nearby.

 Barred owls don't migrate, and don't even move around very much. Of 158 birds that were banded and then found later, none had moved farther than 6 miles away.

*Continued next page*

## *Upcoming Prairie Walk at Harmony Arboretum*



A **prairie walk** will be held on **Thursday, August 11, from 6:00-8:00 p.m.** to learn more about our native prairie ecosystems and the plants and animals that live there. It's a beautiful time of year for prairie plants and many are in bloom. Led by Northern Lights Master Gardeners Linda Warren and Adrian Konell, you'll see a great variety of native prairie plants. Wear good walking shoes and insect repellent is recommended.

For information about these programs and more, see the Harmony Arboretum Calendar on page 8, or call the Land & Water Conservation office at 715-732-7780, or visit [www.marinettecounty.com](http://www.marinettecounty.com). The Harmony Arboretum is located 7 miles west of Marinette, ½ mile south of State Highway 64 on County Road E. It's open to the public year-round and free!



### Owls, continued

Young Barred owls climb trees by grasping the bark with their bill and talons, flapping their wings, and walking their way up the trunk.

Now we will learn a bit about the Barred owl's nemesis . . . the **Great-horned owl**.

A Great-horned owl is a large, thick-bodied owl with two prominent feathered tufts on the head. The wings are broad and rounded (wingspan can reach 4-5 feet from tip to tip). The coloring is mottled gray-brown, with reddish brown faces and a neat white patch on the throat. The overall color tone varies regionally from sooty to pale.



Great-horned owls live in Wisconsin year-round in woodlands, swamps, orchards, and agricultural areas, but they are found in a wide variety of mixed forests. They even have been found in cities, suburbs and parks.

These birds have the most diverse diet of all North American raptors. Their prey can range in size from tiny rodents to rabbits, skunks, geese and raptors. They prefer to eat mostly mammals and birds, but will eat other species like bats, porcupines, ducks, doves, other owls, and starlings. They may supplement their diet with reptiles, insects, fish and sometimes carrion. Although mostly nocturnal hunters, they have been known to hunt during the day. They take the 'sit and watch' approach to hunting – they perch on a tree limb and upon spotting their prey, they will silently swoop down to catch his meal. The talons of a Great-horned owl can spread to 4" x 8" and can close with a force of almost 30 pounds.



Owl nest at upper right, in a heron rookery; note the great blue heron in nest at top left. Below are two other inhabited nests.

The Great-horned owl is the earliest nesting bird of Wisconsin, starting in January and raising their owlets in the dead of winter. They don't make their own nests, instead using a hollow tree cavity or an old hawk, crow, heron or squirrel nest. They may line the nest with shreds of bark, leaves, downy feathers plucked from their own breast, fur or feathers from prey or trampled pellets. Nests deteriorate over the course of the breeding season and are seldom reused in later years.



Great-horned owls lay 1 to 4 eggs, and incubated for 30 to 37 days. The hatchling owlet is helpless, with closed eyes, pink skin and white down on the upperparts. Since she nests in the dead of winter, Mom won't leave the young for three weeks. Dad brings the food, and when feathers replace the down on the owlets, Mom will also begin to hunt. At four weeks the owlets will begin to feed themselves. At six weeks they venture out of the nest to perch out nearby branches. Within the next couple of weeks the first flights will be taken. Owlets stay with parents during the summer and set out to find own territories in late fall or early winter.



### Some Cool Facts

- 🦉 The Great-horned owl is also referred to as a cat owl, hoot owl, big-eared owl and "the tiger of the sky" because of its aggressive nature and ability to capture prey much larger than itself.
- 🦉 When clenched, a Great-horned owl's strong talons require a force of 28 pounds to open. The owls use this deadly grip to sever the spine of large prey.
- 🦉 Even though the female Great-horned owl is larger than her mate, the male has a larger voice box and a deeper voice. Pairs often call together, with audible differences in pitch.

🦉 Many people believe that an owl can turn its head all away around, but this is not true. Owls have fourteen neck vertebrae that allow them to move their head at 270 degrees, left to right.

🦉 Their color varies with the area in which they are found. Canadian and Pacific Northwest Great-horned owls are very dark, while the birds found in arid regions are usually very sandy in color. In the Arctic they are practically white.

🦉 Great-horned owls are covered in extremely soft feathers that insulate them against the cold winter weather and help them fly very quietly in pursuit of prey.

🦉 If a Great-horned owl was the same size as a human, its eyes would be as big as oranges.

🦉 Great-horned owls take life-long mates. They won't build a nest together, but will raise their young in the abandoned nests of other birds such as hawks, eagles and crows.

🦉 Flocks of American crows are known to harass the Great-horned owl, pestering it for hours or until the owl leaves. The crow's hostility is well-earned, as the owl is a major predator to their nestlings and adults. Other small bird species, such as swallows, are also known for this behavior.

### References & more information:

- ✓ All About Birds – Cornell Lab of Ornithology [www.allaboutbirds.org](http://www.allaboutbirds.org)
- ✓ Audubon – Guide to North American Birds [www.audubon.org/field-guide/bird](http://www.audubon.org/field-guide/bird)
- ✓ National Geographic [www.nationalgeographic.com/animals/birding](http://www.nationalgeographic.com/animals/birding)
- ✓ Nature Conservancy - [www.nature.org](http://www.nature.org)
- ✓ The Owl Pages – [www.owlpages.com](http://www.owlpages.com)
- ✓ A Wild Woods Guide by Doug Bennet & Tim Tiner
- ✓ Discover Nature at Sundown by Elizabeth Lawlor
- ✓ Owls of the North by David Benson
- ✓ Wild About Wisconsin Birds by Adele Porter



### Like us on Facebook!

The Marinette County Land Information Department is now on Facebook. This is where you can find out facts about nature, Wisconsin wildlife and birds, the environment, programs we have to offer and other good information. To find our Facebook page, go to the Marinette County website at [www.marinettecounty.com](http://www.marinettecounty.com), and then go into "Departments" (on the left hand side of the main page). Then click on "Land Information". There you will find a Facebook logo that you can click on and it will bring you to our page. The other way you can find us is to log in to Facebook and search for our page. Please type in "Marinette County Land Information Department" and the page should pop right up (Facebook may have you type in some letter/numbers as a security precaution). **And before you leave our page, don't forget to "Like Us"!**





## Area Farmers' & Flea Markets



**Crivitz Flea & Farmers' Market:** Open every Thursday from May 26 through September 1, 8am-2pm across from the Village Hall at 800 Henriette Avenue. Wide variety of vendors with handmade arts & crafts, antiques, collectables and much more! Contact Barbara Uhl at 715-854-2030 to rent space by the day or season up to first market date. Bonus Flea Market – July 4, 2016 8am – 2pm. Mad Dog & Merrill Demonstrations, 6/30 & 7/4.

**Marinette Stephenson Island Market:** Open Fridays, June 3 – October 28 from 2-6pm by the Welcome Center (1680 Bridge Street). Call 715-732-4333 for more information or visit them on Facebook.



**Menominee County Farm & Food Exchange:** At the VFW Post 1887 in Menominee, Saturdays 9am – noon. Call 906-639-3377 or email [info.mcfef@gmail.com](mailto:info.mcfef@gmail.com) for more information. Also find us on Facebook!



**Menominee Historic Downtown Farmers Market:** June 4 to October 8, Saturdays 8am-noon, and Wednesdays from 3-6pm. The Farmers' Market is located on 1st Street (across from the bandshell) in Menominee, MI. Contact Lucy Pier, 906-863-8718 for more information, or visit online at [www.menomineefarmersmarket.com](http://www.menomineefarmersmarket.com).



## Northwoods Journal Online

Would you like to read current issues of the *Northwoods Journal* online? Go to [www.marinettecounty.com](http://www.marinettecounty.com) and click "Northwoods Journal" in the Quick Links menu at the right of the page. We can send an e-mail reminder when each new issue is posted online. Contact Anne Bartels, LWCD Information & Education Specialist: [abartels@marinettecounty.com](mailto:abartels@marinettecounty.com) or call 715-732-7784 for more information.

## 2016 NLMGA Garden Walk a Hit!

Over 160 people attended the July 16<sup>th</sup> Garden Walk in the Marinette, Peshtigo, and Menominee areas. The Northern Lights Master Gardeners, garden hosts, and volunteers all helped provide visitors with 8 beautiful locations, ideas for gardens and yard art, and information. Below are photos of some of the gardens on this year's walk.



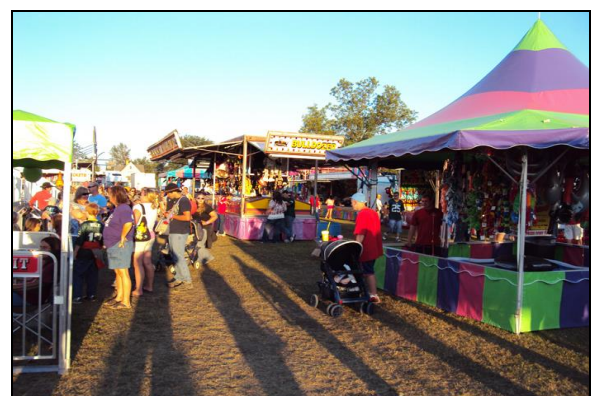
## Marinette County Fair in Wausaukee August 25-28!



Stop in for an old-fashioned good time! The fair features 4-H and open class exhibits, merchant's exhibits, music, midway entertainment, truck and tractor pulls and the demo derby. Held at the Wausaukee Fair grounds, admission is \$5 per day or \$15 for the season. Wristband nights for the carnival are Thurs. and Fri. from 2-5pm at \$15 per wristband & Thurs. & Fri. 6-10pm at \$20; Sun. Noon-4pm at \$20. Gates open 9am-10pm.



\$12 advance season tickets available at Witt's Piggly Wiggly-Crivitz, Associated Bank-Coleman, Lee's Family Foods-Peshtigo and MM Chamber of Commerce-Marquette. For more information, visit [www.marinettecountyfair.com](http://www.marinettecountyfair.com) or call 1-715-938-4099. We're also on Facebook!





## 11<sup>th</sup> Annual Sand Lake Conservation Camp Again a Success

By Anne Bartels, Information & Education Specialist



2016 Sand Lake Conservation Camp participants

The 11<sup>th</sup> annual Sand Lake Conservation Camp held at Camp Bird near Crivitz was again a success this year, with 72 campers representing 25 Wisconsin and 2 Upper Michigan counties, and 24 dedicated camp staff. This event is for youth going into 6-8<sup>th</sup> grade in the fall and is organized by the Marinette County Land & Water Conservation Division (LWCD). Conservation Camp provides positive educational outdoor experiences, fosters an appreciation for nature, and introduces a variety of natural resources and conservation career opportunities to youth.

Core topics, presented by Marinette County staff, included aquatic macroinvertebrates, herptiles, and water pollution/conservation. Evening presentations were given by Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources Fisheries Biologist Chip Long and Conservation Wardens Tim Werner and Dale Rombach. They spoke about their careers, educational backgrounds, and tools they use in their jobs. Naturalists from the Bay Beach Wildlife Sanctuary in Green Bay brought several native Wisconsin animals and discussed wildlife rehabilitation & conservation issues. All-camp cabin competitions included a scavenger hunt, a campfire building contest, and "Conservation Jeopardy".



Bay Beach Wildlife Sanctuary brought several animals, including a Great Horned owl, above. The Raptor Education Group from Antigo (REGI) brought other birds of prey, a Peregrine Falcon and Kestrel among them.



Campers enjoying free time fishing, kayaking, canoeing, and swimming in beautiful Sand Lake.

Campers signed up for 'Choice Activities', offered on a first-come, first-served basis. These activities included wilderness survival skills, canoeing, wolf ecology, outdoor recreation safety, trapping, raptor rehabilitation, archery, t-shirt design, outdoor first aid, birdhouse building, leathercraft, nature crafts,

mammal tracks, and teambuilding/low-ropes challenge course activities.



Building birdhouses



Campers work together on the "Giant's Finger" element; the goal is to get the tire up and over the pole.



Creating a decorative windchime from natural materials (above and below)



Tee-shirt design with paints, stencils, and stamps

Choice activities were presented by Marinette County camp staff and guest speakers. Jeremy Cords, WDNR, led outdoor recreation safety; Richard and Maryann Clark of Clark's Willowtree Fur of Coleman led trapping; and Marla Sutton led the outdoor first aid sessions. Ray Leonard and Julia Robson of the Timber Wolf Information Network presented wolf ecology sessions, and staff from the Raptor Education Group, Inc. (Antigo) taught sessions on raptor rehabilitation.



Campers learn about radio telemetry techniques with Julia Robson of the Timber Wolf information Network.

Camper scholarships were provided this year by the American Legion Post 280 of Coleman; Glacierland RC&D; Green Bay Chapter of Trout Unlimited; Groundwater Guardians/Calumet County; the Phoenix Falls Chapter of Wisconsin Woodland Owners Association; and the Wisconsin Land & Water Conservation departments in Calumet, Iron, Monroe, Oneida, Portage, and Waushara Counties joined Marinette County in providing scholarships to campers. Several private donations were also received for camp programs. Sponsors' and donors' dedication to youth programs like Sand Lake Conservation Camp is much appreciated. Thank you to everyone who helped with Sand Lake Conservation Camp 2016 and for making it a successful event!



Chip Long, WDNR, talks about the tools he uses as a Fisheries Biologist

For more information about Sand Lake Conservation Camp, please visit [www.marinettecounty.com](http://www.marinettecounty.com) or contact Anne Bartels, Information & Education Specialist, at 715-732-7784 or [abartels@marinettecounty.com](mailto:abartels@marinettecounty.com). Tentative dates for 2017 are June 21-23.



Sunset on Sand Lake

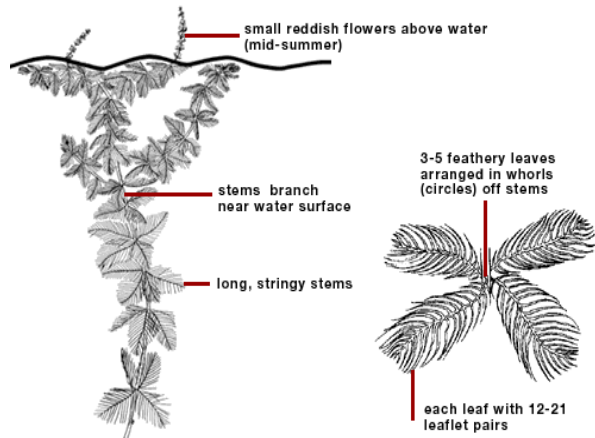




## New “Tools” Help Control Eurasian Water Milfoil on Area Lakes

By Chuck Druckrey, Water Resource Specialist

Since its discovery in 1991, Eurasian watermilfoil (EWM) has been on the move in Marinette County. In the past several years the plant has invaded at least nine new lakes and flowages where it often expands rapidly, damaging the native plant community and impacting fisheries, boating, and water quality.



During the last several years the Marinette County Land & Water Conservation Division (LWCD) has been working with landowners and lake groups to control the aquatic invader and prevent its spread to neighboring lakes.



Historically, the most common control measure has been the use of aquatic herbicides containing 2,4-D. When properly applied, excellent control of EWM has been achieved with minimal damage to the native plant community. However, while it can be effective, herbicide use is not without its problems.



Many lake residents are opposed to herbicide use, it is relatively expensive, and if not carefully applied it can damage some native species. Repeated applications are also necessary to maintain control. Recently the LWCD has been working to expand the list of tools available for managing EWM and working closely with the DNR and local lake groups to reduce the amount of chemicals used in our lakes.

One promising alternative control method involves manipulating water levels on impoundments. Research has shown that the roots of EWM are killed by freezing temperatures while most native plants are unaffected. For the last several years the LWCD has been working with the Beecher Lake District to modify the Beecher Lake Dam and conduct some limited dredging so the water level can be lowered during the winter months. State grants have funded part of the project which, when completed, will allow the District to control EWM at little or no cost by just opening a valve every few years.



Beecher Lake drawdown

Marinette County is also the first county in Wisconsin to build and operate a *Diver Assisted Suction Harvester* (DASH). The DASH consists of a system of hoses, pumps, screens, and collection tanks mounted on a pontoon boat. In operation, a diver on the lakebed uproots and feeds EWM plants into the hose (first photo below). These plants are transported to the surface where an operator collects them. The water is filtered to remove plant fragments before it's returned to the lake (second photo below). The DASH unit was made possible by a Wisconsin Aquatic Invasive Species Control Grant. Using DASH, the LWCD has nearly eliminated EWM from Little Newton Lake and drastically reduced the need for herbicide treatments on Thunder Lake.



While reducing or even eliminating the need for herbicide treatments is the goal, there are times when herbicides are still the best alternative for controlling invasive plants. After EWM was discovered in Lundgren Lake in 2014, the LWCD received grant funding to conduct a whole-lake herbicide treatment. The EWM had already spread throughout the lake and was too dense for hydraulic harvesting. The treatment was conducted in early May and it has been very successful. During a recent visit to Lundgren Lake the LWCD was unable to find even a single surviving milfoil plant. Despite its apparent success, herbicide use alone has never eliminated EWM from a lake. In the coming months and years the DASH boat will be deployed on Lundgren Lake to harvest the survivors and any plants that sprout from seeds left in the sediment.

Years of experience has shown that the key to managing EWM is using the right tool for the job and persistence. Once found in a lake, it is nearly impossible to eradicate an invasive plant. However, with a full toolbox, a sound management plan, and the ability to adapt to changing conditions, a lake group can manage EWM, encourage a healthy native plant community, and maintain a healthy lake.

## LWCD Hosts Lake Michigan Land & Water Conservation Association Tour

The Lake Michigan Land & Water Conservation Association Summer Tour was hosted by the Marinette County Land & Water Conservation Division on Friday, July 15<sup>th</sup>. Conservationists and staff from seven area counties (Brown, Oconto, Shawano, Kewaunee, Sheboygan, Manitowoc and Door) and from other agencies participated. Marinette County's Administrator also attended.



The tour started at Harmony Arboretum, where the group was welcomed by Ted Sauve, Chair of the Land Information Committee, and Linda Warren, Master Gardener. Participants were given information regarding Marinette County and LWCD programs. The group toured the Demonstration Gardens, the Children's Garden and the prairie.

The next stop was the Hattie Street Dam, where the group viewed the fish elevator with the *Menominee Fish Passage Partnership*. They were welcomed by the owner of the Eagle Creek Renewable Energy who owns the building the elevator is in. Since 2014, 108 adult Sturgeon have been transported upstream.



Menekaunee Harbor, a 13-acre natural embayment of the Menominee River was the next stop. Being part of the *Lower Menominee River Area of Concern*, it is one of the 43 in the Great Lakes-St. Lawrence River Basin area. The restoration of Menekaunee Harbor includes introducing more native vegetation and restoring habitat.

**Continued on page 7**

### Northwoods Journal Volume 14, Issue 3

The *Northwoods Journal* focuses on various outdoor recreation opportunities and local environmental topics to inform readers about natural resource use, management, and recreation in Marinette County.

#### Published in cooperation by:

- Marinette Co. Land & Water Conservation
- Marinette Co. Parks & Outdoor Recreation
- Marinette Co. UW-Extension

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Please send comments to:  
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1926 Hall Ave, Marinette, WI 54143  
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## “HUMMINGBIRD PARENTS”: Seven Actions Parents Can Take To Reduce Risk & Still Get Their Kids Outside

By Richard Louv, [www.childrenandnature.org](http://www.childrenandnature.org)

Parenting advice can go to extremes. Regarding outdoor play, some experts sternly warn parents about all the dangers, real or assumed – from strangers to noxious weeds – lurking outside the front door. At the same time, parents sometimes find themselves shamed for their fear.

“With all of the talk about giving kids leverage and freedom from a very early age, you start to feel guilty when you help your kids,” writes guest blogger Michele Whitaker in Bethel Almeras’ terrific blog, *The Grass Stain Guru*. “I hate to admit it, but fear and anxiety are definitely factors,” Whitaker writes. It’s hard not to be consumed by that fear, given the horrendous reality of crimes against children.

Yes, it’s true that the number of abductions and child murders has been decreasing in recent years, and our perception of danger is amplified by media hype. But parental fear is real. It should be respected and not dismissed. **Even with this fear, most of us want to make sure our children have as much independent play as possible, including play in the natural world, for their healthy development.** Some parents will be comfortable encouraging their kids to roam freely, but the truth is most won’t. So here are seven suggestions for ways to manage our fear, reduce risk, and still get our kids outside.



**1. Take your kids outdoors.** If we want our children or grandchildren to experience nature, we’ll need to be more proactive than parents of past generations. When my wife and I raised our boys, we certainly felt the fear, and they didn’t have the freedom to roam that we did. (That’s Kathy and Matthew Louv in the photo.) But our sons did experience nature – in the canyon behind our house, building their forts, digging their holes, sitting under a tree coated with butterflies, all within our eyesight. We took them hiking, and I took them fishing, often. And we tried to stay out of their way so they could explore on their own.

**2. Be a hummingbird parent.** Whitaker suggests, “In the range from helicopter to neglect – I probably fall a bit more toward helicopter. In fact, I call myself a hummingbird parent. I tend to stay physically distant to let them explore and problem solve, but zoom in at moments when safety is an issue (which isn’t very often).” Notice that she isn’t hovering over her kids with nature flash cards. She stands back and makes

space for independent nature play – albeit not as free as she experienced as a child, this play is important nonetheless.

**3. Teach your child to watch for behaviors more than for strangers.** That’s the advice of family psychologist John Rosemond. Telling a child to stay away from strangers is relatively ineffective. ‘Stranger’ is not a concept young children understand easily, he maintains. Instead, children ought to be taught to be on the lookout for specific threatening behaviors and situations. Also, get to know your neighbors. Create a play-watch group and ask fellow parents to sit on front stoops or porches or lawns several hours a week; that way, they are available at a distance as children play.



**4. Develop a walking/activity buddy system.** Encourage kids to do nature activities together. It’s cheap and grassroots based, suggests Juliet Robertson, a nature play specialist in Scotland. If there were agreed times and routes then folk could meet up and walk together or bike together. Some young people are creating their own kids’ nature clubs.

**5. Create or join a family nature club.** Nature Clubs for Families are beginning to catch on across the country; some have membership lists of over 400 families. The idea is that multiple families meet to go for a hike, garden together, or even do stream reclamation. We hear from family nature club leaders that when families get together, the kids tend to play more creatively – with other kids or independently – than during single family outings. C&NN’s [Nature Clubs for Families](http://www.childrenandnature.org/initiatives/families) offers a free downloadable guide on how to start your own.



**6. Take back the trails.** On C&NN’s [online discussion group](http://www.childrenandnature.org/initiatives/families), which is a great place to talk with other parents and learn about the movement (Ken Finch of [Green Hearts](http://www.greenhearts.org) offers a good essay on this topic there, too), Patty Born Selly makes this suggestion for dealing with fear: The best thing we can do as a community is to take back our trails – slowly, over time, we will reach a tipping point of sorts. The more people are out there, using our parks, using our trails, enjoying our natural areas, the more our collective comfort with this sort of thing increases.



**7. Get the safety information you need.** Become familiar with good resources for safety tips in the outdoors, including those with information on how to guard against ticks. One such site is the Centers for Disease Control Web site. The Web site for the Audubon Society of Portland offers excellent general information on living with a variety of urban wildlife.

Does our fear often border on the irrational? Sure. But nobody said that parenting itself is completely rational. If it were, scientists would be raising our kids – in labs, with control groups. Yes, there are risks outdoors (though not nearly as many as the news media would have us believe), but there are huge psychological, physical and spiritual risks in raising future generations under protective house arrest. Child obesity is just one of them.



So, rather than giving in to those fears, we need to give our children the appropriate freedom they deserve. And we also have to come up with new, safe ways to get our young people and ourselves outdoors. Parents can’t do this alone. Communities and organizations need to help. But for families, these seven actions are a start.

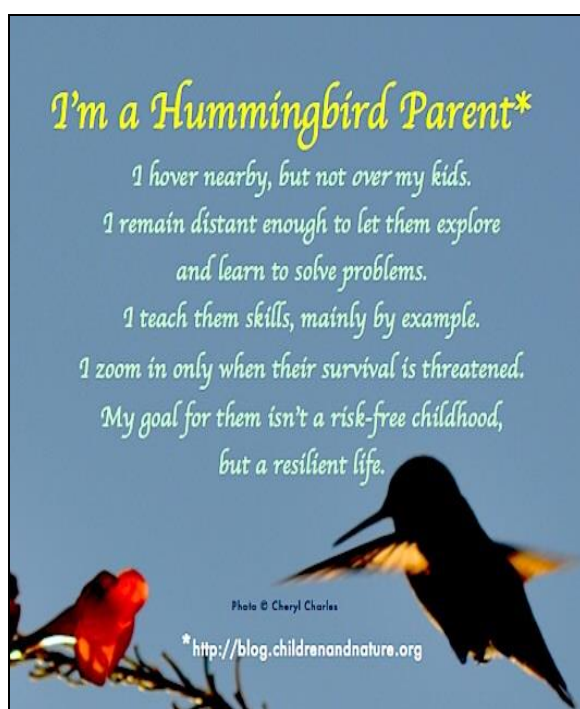
I’ll close here with another bit of wisdom from Michele Whitaker: “Common sense needs to rule on this issue. Are helicopter parents bad for caring so deeply about their kids? Certainly not. Will their children be scarred for life? No. Should parents back off and let their kids take reasonable risks? Yes!”

### Additional Resources:

- ✓ **C&NN’s Nature Clubs for Families:** a toolkit for families & neighborhoods  
[www.childrenandnature.org/initiatives/families](http://www.childrenandnature.org/initiatives/families)
- ✓ **Nature Rocks:** tips for taking your children outdoors - [www.natureworkseverywhere.org](http://www.natureworkseverywhere.org)
- ✓ **“Last Child in the Woods”** with 100 actions for families and communities
- ✓ **The Nature Kids Institute:**  
<http://www.naturekidsinstitute.org>

### About the Author

Richard Louv is Co-Founder and Chairman Emeritus of the Children & Nature Network, an organization supporting the international movement to connect children, their families and their communities to the natural world. He is the author of eight books, including “Last Child in the Woods: Saving Our Children from Nature-Deficit Disorder” and “The Nature Principle: Reconnecting with Life in a Virtual Age.” In 2008, he was awarded the Audubon Medal.





LOOKING FOR SOMETHING CREATIVE TO DO?  
*make something truly unique*  
**SATURDAY, AUGUST 6 TH**  
**9AM - NOON**

**ART IN THE GARDEN**

**HARMONY ARBORETUM  
 DEMONSTRATION GARDENS**

LOCATED 7 MILES WEST OF MARINETTE ON HWY 64,  
 THEN ½ MILE SOUTH ON COUNTY E

JOIN MASTER GARDENER VOLUNTEERS  
 TO EXPLORE DIFFERENT ASPECTS OF GARDENING  
 WITH ART PROJECTS FOR ADULTS AND KIDS

UPCYCLED GARDEN ART CONTEST  
 OPEN TO ALL, PRIZES AWARDED  
 SEE REGISTRATION FOR CONTEST RULES

**\$10 for adults and \$5 for youth (15 and under)**  
 CHECK THE WEBSITE FOR DETAILS, [HTTP://MARINETTE.UWEX.EDU](http://MARINETTE.UWEX.EDU) OR  
 CALL UW- EXTENSION OFFICE AT 715-732-7510 TOLL FREE 877-884-4408

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PLEASE REGISTER  
 TO RESERVE YOUR SPOT **BY 7.25.16**

**Rain or Shine**



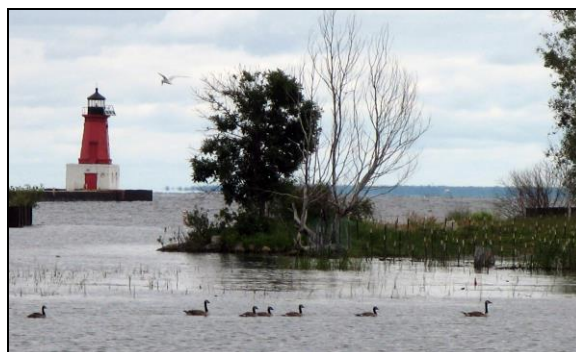
### \*\* Art in the Garden Contest \*\*



The Upcycled Garden Art Competition is organized by the Northern Lights Master Gardener Association to encourage reuse/recycling of materials into art.

The contest is free to all. You do not have to participate in Art in the Garden to enter. The two contest categories are Youth and Adult Best of Show. Prizes will be awarded. Entries will be voted on by Art in the Garden participants, and all entries will be displayed at the Harmony Arboretum Demonstration Gardens.

### LMLWCA Tour, Continued



After a lunch and business meeting at the Iron Works in Marinette, the group travelled to Lake Noquebay Park to view the DASH (Diver Assisted Suction Harvester). Hydraulic harvesting is used to control scattered and/or low density Eurasian Water Milfoil populations. Once EWM sites are located, the harvester is anchored near the area and the diver prepares to dispatch. The diver uses a 40-foot long suction hose to remove the milfoil and its roots from the lakebed.



The Clean Boats Clean Waters staff took over the presentation and showed off the pressure washer

that belongs to the *Wild River Invasive Species Coalition*. Marinette County received a grant from WRISC to hire two watercraft inspectors to help prevent and contain AIS (Aquatic Invasive Species).



The last stop of the tour was Van De Walle Farms. Because of the proximity to Bundy Creek, the owners decided to install best management practices to prevent farm nutrients from entering surface waters. They started in 2008 by installing manure storage, manure transfer, milk waste storage and barnyard runoff management systems. In 2014 they started collecting feed storage runoff also. All nutrients produced on the farm are utilized on the crop fields by following a NRCS (Natural Resource Conservation Service) approved nutrient management plan. The hope is that by having a "zero runoff" operation, they keep ahead of future regulations. Marinette County next hosts a summer tour in 2024.





Area Events Calendar



- May - Sept.** **Area Museums Open.** Marinette & Menominee County Historical Museums, Peshtigo Fire Museum, Amberg Historical Complex, Busville Doll Museum (Crivitz), Land of Oz Museum (Wausaukee) & West Shore Fishing Museum (M-35 north of Menominee, MI). Visit <http://therealnorth.com/index.php/2014-10-06-18-45-29/museums> or call the Marinette/Menominee Area Chamber of Commerce at (715) 735-6681.
- May-Sept.** **Crivitz Flea & Farmer's Market.** Open every Thursday from May 26, 2016 through September 1, 2016, 8am-2pm across from the St. Mary's Catholic Church at 800 Henriette Avenue. Wide variety of vendors with handmade arts & crafts, antiques, collectables and much more! Contact Barbara Uhl at 715-854-2030 to rent space by day or season up to first market date.
- June-Sept.** **Marinette Market.** Open Friday, June through the end of September from 2pm to 6pm at Stephenson Island. Call the Welcome Center at 715-732-4333 for more information.
- June-Sept.** **Forgotten Fire Winery Summer Concert Series.** Join the fun every Saturday in June, July and September for the outdoor concerts. Music starts at Noon and ends at 4 pm. No carry-ins please. Visit [www.forgottenfirewinery.com](http://www.forgottenfirewinery.com) for a full listing of artists performing during the 2016 season. In Peshtigo. **Summer Concert kick off on June 4 from 10am to 5pm.**
- June-Sept.** **Falling Waters Winery Summer Concert Series.** Join the fun every Friday in June, July, and September from 5 to 8:30pm for live music at the winery. No carry-ins please. Visit [www.fallingwaterswinery.com](http://www.fallingwaterswinery.com) for a full listing of artist performing during the 2016 season. In Crivitz on Dyer Street – kickoff is on June 3.
- June 7 – Aug. 23** **Summer Story Time.** Stephenson Island, weather permitting – if not will be at the Library. Tuesdays at 10:00 am Family story time. For kid's 0-3 **Itsy Bitsy Story Time** on Wednesday's at 11:00 am at Stephenson Public Library. For more information please call 715/732-7570.
- August 4 - 7** **34th Annual Waterfront Festival** at Menominee Marina Park. Thursday: children's parade, food booths open at 4pm, children's activities, fire house safety tours, and music 4pm & 7pm. Friday: brats for breakfast, food booths open at 4pm, children's activities, water ball contest, sailboat race and music 4pm & 7pm. Saturday: 5k run & 5k walk, YMCA fitness demonstrations, M&M Amateur Radio Club, food booths open at 11am, children's activities, kayaking demonstrations, music 2:30pm & 5:15pm, and fireworks (9:30pm). Sunday: food booths open at 11am, parade at noon, Drum & Bugle Corp. performance 2-7pm. For more information call 906-863-2656 or visit [www.menomineewaterfrontfestival.com](http://www.menomineewaterfrontfestival.com).
- August 5** **Family Water Bash.** Civic Center Pool in Marinette, 6:15-8:15pm. Theme is "Olympic Tryouts". Call the Rec. Dept. at 715-732-5222 for more information.
- August 6** **Pembine 5th Annual Community Run.** Run at Pembine American Legion Park, Minnie & Willis Street and will include walkers as well in the 5K event. All participants receive a t-shirt and medal (medals unique to the Pembine Run). Race starts at 8:00 am Check in at 6:30 am. For questions email [pembinerunwalk@yahoo.com](mailto:pembinerunwalk@yahoo.com). To register on-line go to [www.Active.com](http://www.Active.com) and search for Pembine.
- August 9** **Sunset Concert Series.** Stephenson Island in Marinette; 6:30 to 8:30 pm. Free musical entertainment - *My Sweet Patootie*. For more information, please call the MMCC at (715) 735-6681.
- August 10** **Bands at Badger Park** in Peshtigo. Free musical entertainment, *The Mullins Band*, starts at 6:30 pm. Concerts held Wednesday evenings with concessions available at 5:30 pm. Call 715-582-1141 for more information.
- August 12** **Kiddie Carnival at Red Arrow Park** from 10:00am to 1:00pm. Part of the Kiddies Day in Marinette Festivities! Kiddie carnival games with chances to win ticket to redeem at the prize table. No pre-registration required. Event will be held rain or shine at the enclosed pavilion.
- August 12** **Family Water Bash.** Civic Center Pool in Marinette, 6:15-8:15pm. Part of Kid's Day! Call the Rec. Dept. at 715-732-5222 for more information.
- August 12** **Movie in the Park** at the gazebo on Stephenson Island. Showing at dark "*Good Dinosaur*". Finale to the Kids' Day in Marinette fun! No admission charge! Bring your blankets and chairs and enjoy the show! Concessions available on the grounds.
- August 15** **44<sup>th</sup> Annual M&M Antique Auto Club Show.** 8am-4pm at Menominee's historic waterfront, with trophies awarded at 3pm. Sponsored by the Motor Company. Registration from 8am-11am; more information call William Chartrand at 715-582-0347.
- August 19** **Kids Night Out at the Duer Gym,** 402 Williams Street. Theme for August is *Superheroes* This is open to kids ages five and up and includes themed activities each month that include arts and crafts, games, and a snack. The cost is \$5 per Kids Night Our, payable at the time of registration at the Civic Center.
- August 24** **Bands at Badger Park.** Badger Park in Peshtigo, *Neon Detour*. Free musical entertainment, 6:30-8:30pm. Concerts held Wednesday evenings with concessions available at 5:30pm. Call 715-582-1141 for more information.
- August 25** **Concerts in the Park.** Great Lakes Memorial Marina in Menominee, MI, 6:30 – 8:30pm - The event is free of charge. Community Jazz Ensemble will be playing. For more information, please call the Marinette/Menominee Area Chamber of Commerce (MMCC) at (715) 735-6681.
- August 25-28** **Marinette County Fair** at the Wausaukee Fairgrounds. See page 3 for more information.
- August 31** **Movie in the Park.** Badger Park in Peshtigo. The movie is *Star Wars ~ The Force Awakens*. Shows start at dusk. Snacks and beverage available for purchase. Bring your own chairs and blankets. Call the Peshtigo Chamber of Commerce for more information at 715/582-0327.



Harmony Arboretum  
Schedule of Events



All programs are free and at Harmony Arboretum unless otherwise stated. For more information, call UW-Extension at 715-732-7510 or Land & Water Conservation at 715-732-7780.

**August 3 - Soil Health in the Garden, 6:30 - 7:30 pm** – Soil health is critical to optimum plant growth and health. Learn how to use cover crops and other soil management techniques effectively in the garden to maximize production potential.

**August 6 – Art in the Garden** – see page 7 for more information.

**August 11 – Prairie Walk** – see page 1 for more information.

**August 16 – Insect Hotels, 6:00 -7:30 pm**  
A hands-on workshop for youth to build an insect hotel for their home, as well as for Harmony Arboretum. Learn why they can be so good for your landscape!

**August 30 - Cooking with Garlic & Onions 6:00 - 8:00 pm** – Experience the possibilities with garlic, onions, and their relatives as you taste test the dozens of different cultivars grown at Harmony in 2016 and learn more about cooking with them and preserving them.

What's New at the Children's Learning Garden at Harmony?

Some updates and new things growing at the Children's Learning Garden at Harmony!



Flowerbeds were installed around the pioneer cabin



Behind the beaver pond is a short-grass prairie 'labyrinth' full of black-eyed susans

A group from Crivitz Youth, Inc. visited recently and enjoyed a program about mammals, "Skins & Skulls", and had fun exploring the CLG, including the digging area!

